

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 IO-14 DHA-02 /088 W
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R 192200Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3340
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 6909
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, BR
SUBJECT: PRESS ATTENTION TO USG VISITOR

1. SUMMARY. PRESS HAS TURNED ITS ATTENTION TO TODMAN AND DALLEY VISITS AND IS SPECULATING AS TO SIGNIFICANCE OF GOB'S REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF LOWENSTEIN VISIT. SOME PAPERS SEE POSTPONE-
MENT OF LOWENSTEIN VISIT AS EVIDENCE OF STRAIN IN USG-GOB RELATIONS. ESTADOO CLAIMS MAJOR ITEM ON TODMAN'S AGENDA WITH AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS WILL BE CAPUANO AND ROSEBAUGH CASE POLICE REPORT. END SUMMARY.

2. THE DECISION TO POSTPONE THE VISIT OF AMBASSADOR LOWENSTEIN TO BRAZIL HAS TOUCHED OFF PRESS SPECULATION OVER POSSIBLE DIPLOMATIC STRAINS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND BRAZIL. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO AUGUST 12 EXPLAINED THE BRAZILIAN DECISION TO ASK FOR A POSTPONEMENT OF THE LOWENSTEIN VISIT AS DUE TO BRAZILIAN CONCERN THAT THE VISIT WOULD BECOME A HUMAN RIGHTS "INVESTIGATION" AND LEAD TO FURTHER DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE PAPER SAID THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT WANTED TO PREVENT OBSTACLES TO THE BILATERAL TALKS SCHEDULED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE. ESTADO CLAIMED THE GOB WANTED TO
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KEEP RELATIONS OVER HUMAN RIGHTS "IN LIMBO", AND LINKED THE CURRENT ATTITUDE TO BRAZILIAN UNHAPPINESS WITH COMMENTS REPORTEDLY MADE BY PRESIDENT CARTER REGARDING LACK OF POLITICAL EVOLUTION IN BRAZIL.
PRESIDENT WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE MADE COMMENT TO PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER SOARES DURING SOARES' VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

3. FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN LAMPREIA DENIED TO JORNAL DO BRASIL AUGUST 12 REPORTS THAT THE U.S. AND BRAZIL WERE UNDERGOING A PERIOD OF SPECIAL STRAIN. LAMPREIA FURTHER DISCOUNTED THE REPORTED COMMENTS OF PRESIDENT CARTER AS "RUMORS", ADDING THAT SUCH COMMENTS WOULD NOT BE MADE TO THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ANOTHER GOVERNMENT.

4. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO AUGUST 13 ALSO ATTEMPTED TO READ SIGNS OF STRAIN INTO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DALLEY'S TWO POSTPONEMENTS OF HIS VISIT, BUT LAMPREIA CLEARLY STATED POSTPONEMENTS WERE DUE TO SCHEDULING CONFLICTS ON MR. DALLEY'S PART AND NOT THE RESULT OF ANY DIPLOMATIC PROBLEMS. LAMPREIA ALSO DISTINGUISHED BETWEEN THE DALLEY AND LOWENSTEIN VISITS AS HAVING DIFFERENT FOCI AND PURPOSES,

5. INTEREST IN BOTH VISITS CONTINUES TO RUN HIGH IN LOCAL PRESS. THE LOWENSTEIN VISIT HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED AS STRICTLY CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS WHEREAS THE DALLEY VISIT HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH THE AGENDA FOR THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE CORREIO BRAZILIENSE HAS POINTED OUT THAT HUMAN RIGHTS WILL BE IMPORTANT IN THE UN MEETING AND STATED THAT DALLEY WILL BE CONCERNED SOLELY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS IN HIS VISIT.

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6. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO SPECULATED AUGUST 16 THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN WOULD PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION DURING HIS VISIT TO RIO TO AN OFFICIAL POLICY REPORT WHICH ABSOLVED THE BRAZILIAN POLICY OF ANY WRONG-DOING IN THE TREATMENT OF AMERICAN MISSIONARIES CAPUANO AND ROSEBAUGH IN RECIFE. ESTADO SAID THE REPORT, WHICH ALLEGES THE MISSIONARIES WERE MISTREATED BY ANOTHER PRISONER RATHER THAN BY POLICY, IS ON THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION BETWEEN TODMAN AND AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS. THE SAME ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT WHILE THE TODMAN VISIT IS BILLED AS A PRIVATE RESTSTOP, ASSISTANT SECRETARY WOULD AGREE TO MEET WITH BRAZILIAN OFFICIAL SHOULD THE LATTER REQUEST SUCH A MEETING.
CRIMMINS

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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